

# Moodle Pilot for Strath Haven High School

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this pilot is to explore the integration of an online course management system to support our current curriculum and instructional practices in a blended learning model.

**Rationale:** Blended learning is a trend in education that combines online learning environments with traditional face-to-face instruction. The primary function of blended learning is to provide an opportunity for independent, differentiated instruction where learning can occur anytime from anywhere using a mix of technologies and interactions. Interactions take place both synchronously and asynchronously. With the scheduling conflicts often found within a semester block schedule, an online component may prove to be a solution for managing coursework and ensuring that all content gets covered. It is also an opportunity for our students to explore and become accustomed to contemporary changes in instructional practice at all levels.

Moodle is an open source, online, interactive learning environment. Moodle allows teachers to expose students to a model for learning they will likely encounter in higher education and business scenarios. Colleges, universities, and other secondary schools continue to incorporate blended learning models into their curriculum. Some states have even mandated that students take at least one online course before graduation.

**Goals:**

- Will it meet our needs for blended learning
- Best plan for large-scale implementation
- Training for teachers and students
- Unforeseen technical issues with open-source technology
- Unforeseen costs with open-source technology

**Criteria for Success:**

- 1) Ability to meet classroom needs as an online learning management system
- 2) Ease of teacher management of student accounts; resources; assignments; and assessments
- 3) Ease of student use, comprehension, and access at school and at home
- 4) Web page and server functionality
- 5) Analysis of teacher and student anecdotal reports
- 6) Analysis of use per teacher
- 7) Compatibility with MMS

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## Scope:

- 1) Pilot will run for the remainder of the school year
- 2) Training for site administrator and course creator to begin in November 2010
  - a. Teachers may begin using Moodle immediately or in the spring.
- 3) Site administrator will enroll students
- 4) Teachers will create courses
- 5) Teachers will build courses by adding curriculum content
- 6) Activity and usage will be monitored on a monthly basis
- 7) Support will be provided by WSSD and the CCIU

## Roles and Responsibilities (see application):

Person	Role	Responsibility
AJ Cetroni	Network Manager	Administrator
Amanda Lawson	Social Studies	Teacher
Andy Benzing	Math	Teacher
Bill Rothenbach	Science	Teacher
Christina Baulch	Language Arts	Teacher (observation only)
Debbie Mischo	Math	Teacher
Kristen Dunning	Language Arts	Teacher
Mark Finlayson	Director of Instructional and Informational Technology	Administrator
Mark Linkins	Director of Curriculum	Oversight
Mimi Drew	Language Arts	Teacher
Patrick Clancy	Social Studies	Teacher
Roberta Shapiro	Social Studies	Teacher/Course Creator*
Valerie Szeliga	Science	Teacher
Xaras Collins-Brown	Technology Integrator for Grades 6 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup>	Administrator
Kieran McLaughlin	Social Studies	Teacher

Core Subjects Totals:    Math: 2            Science: 2            Language Arts: 3            Social Studies: 4

\* Roberta will share responsibilities for providing Moodle support and creating/managing teacher courses.

## Considerations:

- 1) Computer and Internet accessibility at school and home
- 2) Availability of computer labs and laptop carts